

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Tetsuya SHIROGANE

Application No.:

Filed:

For: STORAGE APPARATUS AND  
ACCESS MANAGEMENT  
METHOD THEREFOR

Examiner:

Art Unit:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

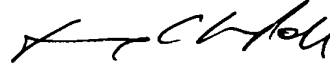
The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement.

However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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60126098 v1

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	Shirogane, Tetsuya
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	16869N-103900US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS <sup>+</sup>						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US-				
	AB	US-				
	AC	US-				
	AD	US-				
	AE	US-				
	AF	US-				
	AG	US-				
	AH	US-				
	AI	US-				
	AJ	US-				
	AK	US-				
	AL	US-				
	AM	US-				
	AN	US-				
	AO	US-				
	AP	US-				
	AQ	US-				
	AR	US-				
	AS	US-				
	AT	US-				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	AU	JP	10-333839		12-18-1998	Hitachi Ltd		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	AV	JP	2001-265655		09-28-2001	Hitachi Ltd		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	AW							<input type="checkbox"/>
	AX							<input type="checkbox"/>
	AY							<input type="checkbox"/>
	AZ							<input type="checkbox"/>
	BA							<input type="checkbox"/>
	BB							<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.